

Discovering Your Interests

Start here:



Take this path and learn how your interests will help you on your journey!

There are many paths you can take when deciding on a career. This interest activity will help you to narrow down your choices and start thinking about careers that match your interests.

INTEREST CHECKLIST

To discover your top interests, use this scale to mark each set of activities.

5	4	3	2	1
like very much	like	not sure	dislike	dislike very much

What do you like to do?



- ☐ Manage a beef, dairy, poultry, or fish farm
- ☐ Set up traps to catch crabs, lobster, or shellfish
- ☐ Feed, groom, or care for animals
- ☐ Maintain planted areas of trees, flowers, or shrubs
- ☐ Manage the use and development of forests



- ☐ Write stories or plays
- ☐ Design a web page
- ☐ Play in a band, orchestra, or music group
- ☐ Broadcast programs on TV or radio
- ☐ Install cable TV or telephone cables



- ☐ Design, build, or remodel homes
- ☐ Survey roads, property lines, and bridges
- ☐ Build roads or bridges
- ☐ Operate machines to power, heat, or cool buildings
- ☐ Install electrical wiring in a home



- ☐ Type or write reports
- ☐ Prepare tax records for people or companies
- ☐ Manage a store
- ☐ Work with computers
- ☐ Answer the telephone and greet customers



- ☐ Teach students to read
- ☐ Take care of young children
- ☐ Research test data
- ☐ Be a physical trainer
- ☐ Coach a team



- ☐ Develop bills to become laws
- ☐ Participate in the military
- ☐ Study legal documents to find information
- ☐ Make regulations to protect the environment
- ☐ Serve as a congressional aide



- ☐ Escort groups of people on tours
- ☐ Serve meals and beverages to people
- ☐ Umpire or referee a sporting event
- ☐ Plan and conduct activities and trips for tourists
- ☐ Manage a hotel



- ☐ Follow blueprints to inspect electronic systems
- ☐ Use computer applications to create products
- ☐ Repair computers
- ☐ Design programs for computers
- ☐ Write technical directions for engineers



- ☐ Use small or large power tools to build or repair items
- ☐ Use precision devices to make parts
- ☐ Use machines to shape, cut, or mold metal, fabric, or wood
- ☐ Install electrical equipment
- ☐ Configure computers



- ☐ Conduct experiments in a lab
- ☐ Use advanced math to solve complex problems
- ☐ Study causes of animal diseases
- ☐ Study space and the solar system
- ☐ Find alternate power sources



- ☐ Keep track of money
- ☐ Manage a bank department
- ☐ Prepare financial records for people or companies
- ☐ Sell insurance to people
- ☐ Help people invest their money



- ☐ Examine people and give them medical treatment
- ☐ Give first aid to patients in an ambulance
- ☐ Help an injured person learn to walk again
- ☐ Process medical records and correspondence
- ☐ Read an X-ray



- ☐ Counsel people in hospitals, clinics, or schools
- ☐ Help youth, couples, and families resolve conflicts
- ☐ Advise people about their nutritional needs
- ☐ Hold parenting classes
- ☐ Plan activities for community centers



- ☐ Protect lives and property from hazards
- ☐ Uncover details of a crime and arrest suspects
- ☐ Study legal documents to find information
- ☐ Guard money or valuables in an armored car
- ☐ Defend someone in court and advise them about laws



- ☐ Buy clothing and accessories for a department store
- ☐ Sell advertising space for a magazine
- ☐ Provide beauty treatments for hair, faces, or nails
- ☐ Run your own business over the Internet
- ☐ Sell houses or land



- ☐ Drive a truck to deliver products
- ☐ Pilot a ship or airplane
- ☐ Drive a bus or taxi
- ☐ Operate a train
- ☐ Manage a distribution warehouse

Career

Clusters



Agriculture and Natural Resources

Do you have an interest in growing, raising, or producing food, animals, or wood?



Arts, Audio/Video Technology and Communications

Is creative expression such as singing, dancing, acting, or painting your "thing"? Or would you prefer to use technology in this field?



Education and Training

Do you think you have a knack for training or teaching other people? Do you see yourself as a future principal?



Government and Public Administration

How about leading your fellow citizens? You could write laws, collect taxes, defend our country, or work to save the environment.



Hospitality and Tourism

Would you like to run Disney World? Perhaps cooking, arranging tours, or professional sports appeals to you.



Information Technology

Do you speak "computer-ese"? Then you could design software, install networks, or troubleshoot technical problems.



Manufacturing

If your interests are sparked by electricity, machines, tools, or managing production, you have a future here.



Scientific Research and Engineering

Does studying the stars, analyzing chemical compounds, or inventing alternate power sources grab you?



Architecture and Construction

Would you like to design, build, or maintain buildings, roads, or bridges?



Business and Administration

Do you feel comfortable in an office setting? If so, organizing reports, billing, or information processing might suit you. Or would you rather be in charge of the whole office?



Finance

If handling cash interests you, then this area is the one! You could manage a bank or be a financial planner.



Health Science

Do you want to save lives, operate medical equipment, or manage a hospital?



Human Services

Does counseling young people, directing community activities, or providing personal services interest you?



Law and Public Safety

If enforcing laws and regulations, putting out fires, or working in the legal system is your bag, then this is the place for you.



Retail/Wholesale Sales and Service

Are you a shopaholic? Do you have a flair for making a sales pitch or would you rather own the store?



Transportation, Distribution, and Logistics Services

This is all about trains, boats, planes, and automobiles and the stuff that is moved in them.

Top 3 Career Clusters

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Record your top 3 on your career profile sheet on page 33.

WHAT'S LEARNING YOUR STYLE?

People learn in different ways. You can discover more about your own personal learning style, or the way you learn, by taking the inventory below. By discovering HOW you learn best, you can use strategies to help you learn MORE! Give points to the following items to determine your score.

OFTEN (3)

SOMETIMES (2)

SELDOM/NEVER (1)

VISUAL STYLE

- ☐ I remember information better if I write it down.
 - ☐ Looking at the person helps keep me focused.
 - ☐ I need a quiet place to get my work done.
 - ☐ When I take a test, I can see the textbook page in my head.
 - ☐ I need to write down directions.
 - ☐ Music or background noise distracts my attention.
 - ☐ I doodle in the margins of my notebook pages.
 - ☐ I have trouble following lectures.
 - ☐ I react very strongly to colors.
- TOTAL**

AUDITORY STYLE

- ☐ My papers and notebooks always seem messy.
 - ☐ I do not follow written directions well.
 - ☐ If I hear something, I will remember it.
 - ☐ Writing has always been difficult for me.
 - ☐ I often misread words from the text (them for that, etc.).
 - ☐ I would rather listen and learn than read and learn.
 - ☐ It's hard for me to interpret other's body language.
 - ☐ Pages with small print are difficult for me to read.
 - ☐ My eyes tire quickly, even though my vision check-up is OK.
- TOTAL**

KINESTHETIC/TACTILE STYLE

- ☐ I start a project before reading the directions.
 - ☐ I hate to sit at a desk for long periods of time.
 - ☐ I prefer to see something done and then do it myself.
 - ☐ I use the trial and error approach to problem solving.
 - ☐ I like to read my textbook while riding an exercise bike.
 - ☐ I take frequent study breaks.
 - ☐ I have a difficult time giving step-by-step instructions.
 - ☐ I enjoy sports and do well at several types of sports.
 - ☐ I use my hands when describing things.
- TOTAL**

VISUAL LEARNERS USUALLY:

- Need to see it to know it.
- May have trouble following lectures.
- May have artistic ability.

VISUAL LEARNERS SHOULD:

- Use graphics to reinforce learning: films, slides, illustrations, diagrams, and doodles.
- Ask for written directions.
- Visualize spelling of words or facts to be memorized.

AUDITORY LEARNERS USUALLY:

- Need to hear it to know it.
- May have difficulty following written directions.
- May have difficulty with reading.

AUDITORY LEARNERS SHOULD:

- Use tapes for reading and class lecture notes.
- Learn by interviewing or participating in discussions.
- Have test questions read aloud.

KINESTHETIC LEARNERS USUALLY:

- Prefer hands-on learning.
- Often can assemble parts without reading directions.
- Learn better when physical activity is involved.

KINESTHETIC LEARNERS SHOULD:

- Engage in experiential learning (making models, doing lab work, role-playing).
- Use computers to reinforce learning by touch.

Total the score for each section. A score of 20 or more indicates a strength in that area. Your **LEARNING STYLE** with the highest score indicates the most efficient method of information intake. Check on the right above for clues and learning tips that fit your strongest learning style.